



# MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # **123-2015**

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2015 MAR 25 PM 1:06  
LETTER TO COMMISSION  
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TO: Mayor Philip Levine and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jimmy Morales, City Manager

DATE: March 24, 2015

SUBJECT: 2014 ANNUAL PART I UNIFORM CRIME REPORT

This Letter to the Commission (LTC) is prepared to advise the Commission of the official crime statistics for the City of Miami Beach for 2014.

The Uniform Crime Report (UCR) methodology is the process whereby all municipalities officially report crime to the FBI annually. Because individual states define some offenses differently, there is a long-standing and well recognized process wherein the FBI, working with the 50 states, analyzes initial reports and categorizes crimes to create a fair apples-to-apples comparison. Hence, the seven major index crimes (known as Part I crimes) constitute the only national measure of one city's crime rate to another.

The UCR Part I crimes are divided into two categories, Violent Crime (Homicide, Forcible Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault) and Property Crime (Burglary, Larceny and Motor Vehicle Theft). It is typical that annual Part I UCR statistics are shared with the Commission via LTC between March and April each year after they have been submitted by the MBPD to the State of Florida and then, once vetted and validated by the State, to the FBI. In early June of each year, the FBI produces a report on crime for the entire nation for the prior calendar year, listing each municipality's data.

It is important to note that Florida's definition of Robbery is broader than the UCR definition. This results in the UCR data for a given year showing fewer robberies and more larcenies for most municipalities, including Miami Beach, than does the state of Florida's statistics. Our Department captures the data in both ways. For crime prevention, strategy and deployment purposes, we focus on the broader Florida definition of robbery and treat all such events as critical crimes that require a top focus by the Department.

Miami Beach saw an overall 3.32 percent decrease in Part I crimes in 2014. The following chart depicts Part I UCR category comparisons from calendar year 2012 through 2014, as well as the percentage difference from 2004 and 2013:

Type of Crime	2004	2012	2013	2014	Percent Difference from 2004	Percent Difference from 2013
Homicide	8	5	4	5	-37.50%	25.00%
Rape	52	42	53	54	3.85%	1.89%
Robbery	585	407	377	385	-34.19%	2.12%
Aggravated Assault	602	487	485	449	-25.42%	-7.42%
<b>Total Violent Crime</b>	<b>1,247</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>919</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>-28.39%</b>	<b>-2.83%</b>
Burglary	1,555	1,048	950	819	-47.33%	-13.79%
Larceny	6,385	7,536	8,425	8,176	28.05%	-2.96%
Motor Vehicle Theft	1,224	444	376	428	-65.03%	13.83%
<b>Total Property Crime</b>	<b>9,164</b>	<b>9,028</b>	<b>9,751</b>	<b>9,423</b>	<b>2.83%</b>	<b>-3.36%</b>
<b>Total Part I UCR Crimes</b>	<b>10,411</b>	<b>9,969</b>	<b>10,670</b>	<b>10,316</b>	<b>-0.91%</b>	<b>-3.32%</b>

*Footnotes:*

1. Rape = Forcible Rape including committed and attempted crimes.
2. Assault = Aggravated Assault, Aggravated Stalking and Forcible Fondling.

### **Violent Crime**

For calendar year 2014, violent crime decreased overall by 2.83 percent. The most significant crime reduction category was in aggravated assaults, which experienced a 7.42 percent reduction as compared to 2013. Homicides slightly increased by one (1) incident as compared to 2013, totaling five (5) for the year. Rape cases were almost unchanged from the prior year, increasing by one (1) incident.

The total number of robberies citywide increased by 8 cases (2.12 percent) in 2014 to a total of 385 cases. Overall violent crimes for 2014 remain at historically low levels, with a reduction of 28.39 percent when compared to 2004.

### **Property Crimes**

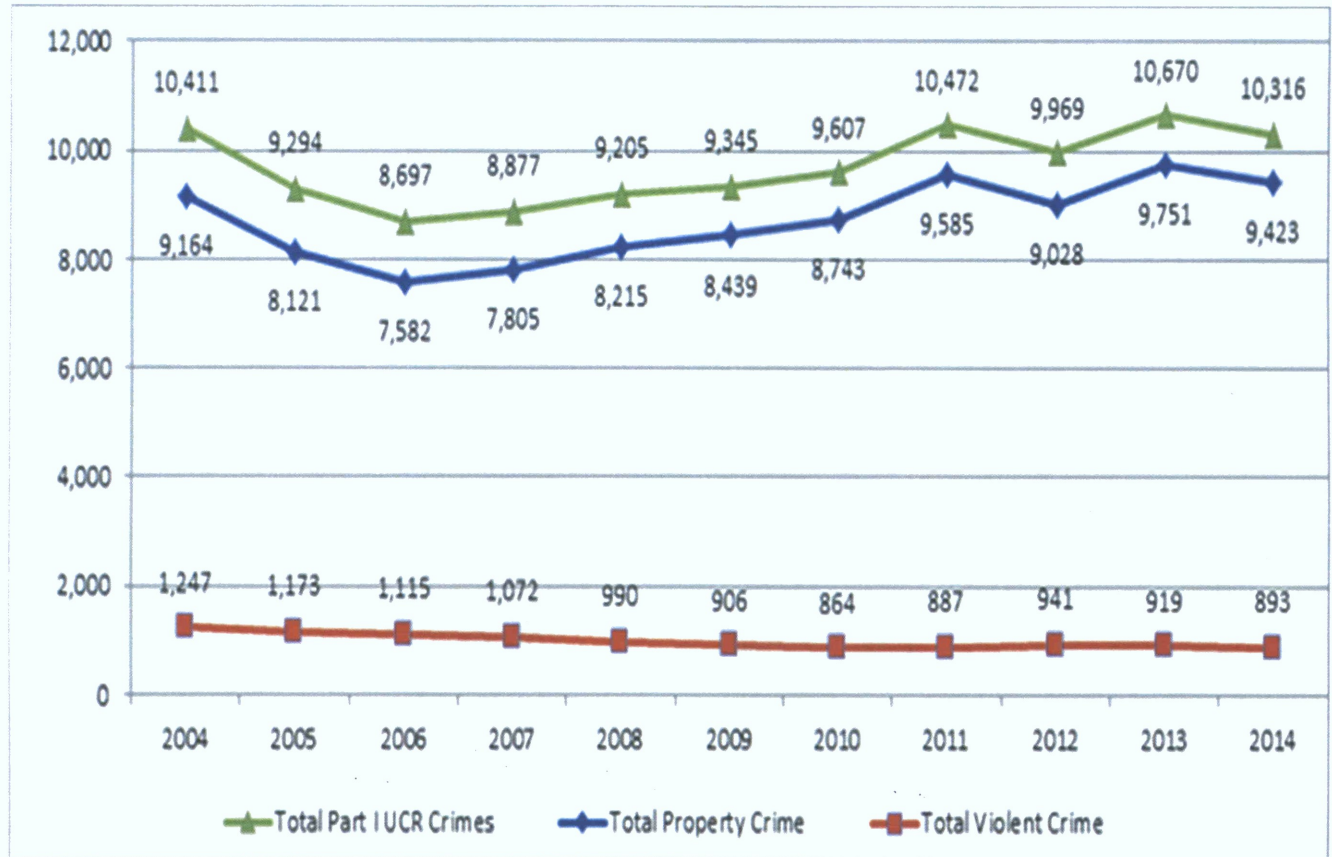
For calendar year 2014, property crimes decreased by 3.36 percent. Burglaries decreased by 13.79 percent and larcenies decreased by 2.96 percent. The reduction in larcenies is significant when compared to the 10.55 percent increase experienced the previous year in this same category.

The total number of motor vehicle thefts increased by 13.83 percent when compared to 2013. However, when compared to 2004, this same category has decreased by 65.03 percent.

Again, notwithstanding, the year-to-year, total violent crimes, property crimes, and total Part I UCR crimes are still lower than they were a decade ago.

Below is a chart that depicts the UCR crime report comparisons from 2004 through 2014:

UNIFORM CRIME REPORT COMPARISON SINCE 2004



The MBPD will continue to proactively fight crime in 2015 and will strategically utilize all available resources to address criminal activity. Emphasis will be placed on community policing strategies and timely crime analysis, as well as anticipating criminal behavior associated with major events and other activities taking place in the City. The newly implemented Crime Strategy Meetings (CSM) will assist in guiding our deployment strategies. We remain hopeful that all our combined efforts, including with our community partners, will help us achieve still further crime reduction in the future.

Please contact me if you have any additional questions.

JM/DJO/DD